

## **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A cosmetic composition for use in cleansing and conditioning the skin of the hand, face, heels/knees/elbows and/or body of a human being that comprises (A) 35% to 80% by weight of emollient material; (B) a water-soluble surface active agent in a proportion selected from the range of 0.4% to 8.0% by weight, said proportion being effective to deposit a skin softening amount of emollient material on the treated skin without a greasy after-feel when said composition is applied to and rinsed from the skin with water and the skin is dried; and (C) a water-insoluble C<sub>12</sub> – C<sub>18</sub> monocarboxylic acid salt, the weight ratio of said emollient material to said carboxylic acid salt being in the range of about 7:1 to about 1:1 and being adequate to produce a composition in the form of a substantially stable, extrudable paste or cream; said composition being effective to cleanse, soften, smooth and moisturize the skin when the composition is applied to and massaged into the skin, thereafter rinsed from the skin with water and the skin is dried. Further, the addition of 5% to 50% by weight of a non-irritating, mildly abrasive, skin compatible, particulate material that is effective to cleanse the skin without abrading the skin to the foregoing composition produces a temperature stable, cosmetic composition particularly suitable for exfoliating the dead skin cells while conditioning the skin at the same time. The described invention also includes the method of cleansing and conditioning the skin of the hands, face, heels/knees/elbows and/or the body of a human being that comprises the steps of (I) applying the above-identified cosmetic compositions to the area of the body to be conditioned; (II) massaging said composition into or onto the skin of said area with the hands; (III) rinsing the composition from the treated skin area with clear, tepid water; and (IV) drying said treated area by patting with a towel; said method being effective to deposit a film of emollient material on the skin thereby smoothing, softening and moisturizing said skin.